



USDA – National
Agricultural Statistics
Service, Tennessee
Field Office

Debra K. Kenerson
Director



Cooperating with Tennessee
Department Of Agriculture

Ken Givens, Commissioner

<http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn> nass-tn@nass.usda.gov Phone 1-800-626-0987

Released December 8, 2005 Volume 05 Number 23

Featuring:

Census of Aquaculture Cotton Ginnings Prices Received Corn & Sorghum MYA & Monthly Prices
Corn Monthly Marketings Livestock Slaughter Online Store Christmas Tree Farms

2005 Census of Aquaculture

The United States Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (USDA-NASS) is gearing up to count aquaculture species produced throughout the United States. The census will also collect detailed data relating to water area, production and sales, point of first sales outlets, farm labor, and aquaculture distributed for restoration or conservation purposes.

Census of aquaculture report forms will be mailed to producers on December 15. Recipients are asked to complete and return their report forms within two weeks of receipt, providing data for the 2005 calendar year.

"Only American aquaculture producers can supply the answers needed to produce a useful and accurate picture of our nation's aquaculture at the national and state levels," said Debra Kenerson, Director of USDA-NASS Tennessee Field Office.

To help improve operations and aquaculture businesses, census data are used by:

- * Farm organizations to evaluate and propose aquaculture policies and programs
- * Businesses to develop marketing strategies and determine facility locations
- * Public and private analysts in making projections and evaluating results
- * Colleges and universities to develop new and improved methods to increase aquaculture production
- * State departments of agriculture for aquaculture promotion and research activities
- * Federal Government policy makers in drafting legislation to help resolve aquacultural issues
- * State and local governments to plan rural development, aquaculture research, and extension programs

Information provided by aquaculture farmers is strictly confidential by law (Title 7, U.S. Code). No data will be disclosed on any individual operation. Statistical results will be summarized and made available in printed and electronic form. Title 7 also states that response to the 2005 Census of Aquaculture is mandatory. All those who receive a census report form are required to return the form even if they did not operate an aquaculture operation in 2005.

"Many of the questions will be similar to those asked in the previous aquaculture census. Some new questions have been added to capture new information, such as farm employment data for aquaculture operations" stated Kenerson.

For the purpose of the census of aquaculture, an aquaculture farm is any commercial or noncommercial place from which \$1,000 or more of aquacultural products were raised and sold, or raised for restoration, conservation, or recreational purposes during the census year.

The final report will be available on the NASS Web site at www.nass.usda.gov in the fall of 2006.

Correction: November 7, 2005 Farmfacts, Page 1:

The market year average price of Tennessee cotton for the 2004 crop year was 40.5 cents per pound, down **16.5** cents from 2003 and the lowest price since 2001.

Cotton Ginnings: Running Bales Ginned (Excluding Linters) Prior to November 15, Crop Years 2002-2005

	Running Bales Ginned			
	2002	2003	2004	2005
All Cotton				
AL	334,950	452,000	517,150	494,350
AZ	305,350	215,850	281,800	219,700
AR	1,253,350	1,340,700	1,408,650	1,792,600
CA	954,850	737,550	1,071,600	710,850
FL	30,550	71,000	58,650	44,800
GA	733,250	987,400	1,084,000	976,150
LA	582,700	973,750	773,100	1,081,550
MS	1,359,450	1,808,200	1,846,750	1,916,000
MO	432,900	443,550	539,600	706,250
NM	20,250	25,200	19,400	23,950
NC	416,300	460,900	833,950	689,900
OK	85,350	77,800	103,200	99,350
SC	56,950	137,400	235,400	169,200
TN	555,450	577,000	622,750	773,600
TX	2,096,050	2,151,750	2,539,350	2,804,700
VA	47,250	46,950	83,350	80,150
US	9,264,950	10,507,000	12,018,700	12,583,100

U.S. Prices Received: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in November, at 113, based on 1990-92=100, increased 2 points (1.8 percent) from October. The Crop Index is up 1 point (1.0 percent) while the Livestock Index decreased 1 point (0.8 percent). Producers received higher commodity prices for eggs, oranges, potatoes, cucumbers, and cattle. Lower prices were received for lettuce, dairy, hogs, broilers, and tomatoes. The overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased average marketings of dairy, cattle, cotton, and oranges offset decreased marketings of soybeans, potatoes, peanuts, and sweet corn. Preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 2 points (1.7 percent) from November 2004. The Food Commodities Index, at 119, increased 3 points (2.6 percent) from last month but decreased 3 points (2.5 percent) from November 2004.

Prices Received by Farmers: Tennessee & U.S., November 2005 with Comparisons

Commodity	Unit	Tennessee			United States		
		November 2004	October ¹ 2005	November ² 2005	November 2004	October ¹ 2005	November ² 2005

Dollars Per Unit

Field Crops

Corn	bu.	2.42	1.84	1.95	2.05	1.82	1.79
Cotton Lint	lb.	0.430	0.489	0.484 ³	0.432	0.485	0.482 ³
Sorghum	cwt.	⁴	3.07	n/a	3.06	2.99	2.81
Soybeans	bu.	5.31	5.52	5.80	5.36	5.67	5.68
Winter Wheat	bu.	⁴	2.99	n/a	3.39	3.33	3.25

Livestock

All beef cattle	cwt.	78.00	80.20	79.20	85.40	91.10	91.60
Steers/heifers	cwt.	98.00	105.00	104.00	90.20	96.60	97.40
Cows	cwt.	48.00	43.00	42.00	48.70	46.60	45.80
Calves	cwt.	111.00	116.00	114.00	123.00	134.00	132.00

¹ Entire month. ² Mid-month. ³ Based on purchases first half of month. ⁴ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms. n/a = not available.

Prices Received: Corn & Sorghum, Tennessee, by Month, for Marketing Years, 2003-2004 and 2004-2005¹

Year	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan ²	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	MYA
Dollars Per Bushel													
Corn													
2003-2004	2.45	2.27	2.05	2.43	2.61	2.44	2.63	2.93	3.01	2.95	2.72	2.73	2.37
2004-2005	2.28	2.10	2.24	2.42	2.33	2.16	2.05	2.09	2.34	2.45	2.38	2.45	2.17
Sorghum													
2003-2004	2.37	2.38	2.37	2.53	2.68	2.67	3.00	³	³	³	³	³	2.41
2004-2005	³	2.09	³	³	³	³	2.13	2.16	2.16	⁴	⁴	⁴	2.17

¹ Marketing year is August-July. ² Second year. ³ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms. ⁴ Insufficient sales to support a price.

Corn: Farm Marketings, Percent of Sales, by Month and State, 2003-2004 and 2004-2005¹

Year	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan ²	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Percent												
Corn												
2003-2004	6	46	16	2	3	12	3	4	3	1	2	2
2004-2005	12	50	7	1	2	10	4	4	3	2	3	2

¹ Monthly farm marketings, based on a sample survey, as a percent of total used for calculating marketing year average prices. ² Second year.

Slaughter: Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.93 billion pounds in October, up slightly from the 3.92 billion pounds produced in October 2004. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.68 million head, down 2 percent from October 2004. The average live weight was up 13 pounds from the previous year, at 1,280 pounds. Calf slaughter totaled 56,400 head, down 10 percent from October 2004. The average live weight was 41 pounds above last year, at 371 pounds. Hog kill totaled 9.12 million head, 2 percent above October 2004. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 269 pounds. Sheep slaughter totaled 228,500 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, up 3 pounds from October a year ago.

Livestock Slaughter¹: Tennessee & United States, October 2004 and 2005

Species	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
Tennessee						
Cattle	1.4	1.4	1,342	1,264	967	923
Calves	0.1	0.1	53	71	447	477
Hogs	53.7	64.7	26,073	30,977	486	479
Sheep & lambs	0.6	1.1	57	88	89	80
United States						
Cattle	2,745.9	2,677.9	3,478,639	3,428,477	1,267	1,280
Calves	62.5	56.4	20,607	20,912	330	371
Hogs	8,969.7	9,117.1	2,395,671	2,449,543	267	269
Sheep & lambs	241.3	228.5	32,465	31,420	135	138

¹ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other commercial slaughter (excludes farm slaughter).

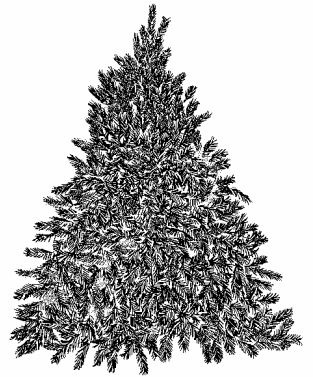
New Online Store Stocks Tennessee Farm Products in Time for Holidays: Holiday shoppers who still haven't filled all their stockings can go to an online store at www.picktnproducts.org to find all sorts of farm and other gourmet products from Tennessee. The new feature is part of the renovations made to the popular "Pick Tennessee Products" Web site developed by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture to help consumers identify and find Tennessee grown and processed food products. The new store offers links to the Web sites of the actual farms and companies that make the products. Visitors to the online store will find photographs of products with Web addresses underneath. The shopper will then simply click on the address to be connected to the producer's own Web site, where the products can be purchased directly from the producer. To access the Tennessee products online store, visit www.picktnproducts.org and click on "Pick Your Products Store."

Christmas Tree Farms Make Season Bright with Events, Activities, Food, Fun--oh, and Trees Too!

Nashville, Tenn. – “You can pick up a natural tree any number of places on your way home—at retail stores, in parking lots, along road sides,” says Rob Beets, marketing specialist with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture. “You can drag an artificial tree out of the storage and set it up-- but having a Christmas tree is not just about a tree.

“Tennessee Christmas tree farmers know that getting your Christmas tree is about an experience, the kind that you’ll remember and weave into the fabric of your life’s holiday memories and traditions. The fact is, people go to Tennessee’s popular Christmas tree farms for all the other things they get there— for a farm experience, holiday activities like wagon rides, having hot cocoa or cider while they stroll through the grove looking for their perfect tree, visiting with Santa Claus, even making their own decorations.”

“Every tree farm is different, but they all want to provide customers with even more than that quality, homegrown tree to enhance a Tennessee Christmas celebration,” says Beets. “They also want to give you a great holiday experience that will keep you coming back to see them year after year.”



Tennessee Christmas tree farms are spread out across the state, according to Beets. The types of trees grown depend on the geography and climate of the region, from mountain region trees like firs and spruces in higher elevations to warm-weather wetland trees like pines and Leyland Cypress to the west. Wherever they are, Christmas tree growers are consumer-friendly, says Beets, usually offering customers several ways to choose the perfect tree. Tree shoppers may wander through groves of uncut trees and cut their own, have trees cut for them, select a freshly cut tree on site at the farm or take home a live balled and burlapped tree.

“Aside from sentimental reasons, there are some pretty practical reasons to choose straight-off-the-farm Tennessee Christmas trees,” says Beets: “Cost and quality. Buying direct from the grower eliminates transportation and middleman costs. Cutting out transportation time also means the customer is assured the freshest tree possible. “Trees coming from out of the state are cut well before Thanksgiving—sometimes as early as October. The freshness of a Tennessee Christmas tree guarantees not only maximum fragrance and appearance but safety, as well.”

“When you go to a Tennessee Christmas tree farm, you are assured of three things,” says Beets: “a fair price, a great holiday experience, and a fresh cut, fragrant tree. When a tree is cut in front of you, there is no doubt you are getting the freshest tree possible.” Beets also points out that customers get an accurate view of the shape of their tree when they choose it, unlike typical retail store trees whose branches need to “fall out” after having been tightly wrapped and stacked in heavy piles for transportation and storage.

For a complete listing of Tennessee Christmas tree farms and for tips on how to choose natural trees for cutting or for post-holiday planting, visit the Market Development Web site at www.picktnproducts.org and click on the Christmas tree or call TDA Market Development at (615) 837-5160.